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# Dimensions 'committed' to 5-star tourist resort on Maple Lake

MIKE BAKER

Editor

The ownership group of Dimensions Health Centres, who recently completed the purchase of a 40-acre resort on Maple Lake, has poured cold water on suggestions it plans to transform the property into a drug rehabilitation clinic.

Speaking to the *Echo* on May 28, Christopher Dawson, CEO of Dimensions, said the company will operate the facility as a tourist attraction.

"I guess we view ourselves, first and foremost, as an experiential travel destination. We are focused on health and wellness. That's the experience we're trying to deliver. But what we're focused on is a retreat centre that is immersed in nature," Dawson said.

A press release distributed last week refers to Dimensions as a "psychedelic treatment company," who will be offering specific customized retreats designed

see DIMENSIONS page 2



## Every child matters

West Guilford siblings Phoebe Stamp, six, left, and Beckett, five, were among the first to leave shoes, sandals and boots in Head Lake Park close to the fountain to memorialize the lives of the 215 Indigenous children whose remains, some as young as three years old, were found at a residential school in Kamloops, British Columbia recently. Their mother Brandon Jarvis brought her children to contribute to the memorial as a result of a social media post made by friend Ashley Wilson of Haliburton, who asked people to leave shoes/boots. Wilson hopes the public can help with the goal of reaching 215 pairs. As of 1 p.m. Monday, there were 18 pairs. /DARREN LUM Staff

## Hall of fame aiming for fall induction ceremony

CHAD INGRAM

Staff Reporter

The board of directors of the Haliburton Highlands Hall of Fame is hoping to host

an inaugural induction ceremony for its round of inductees in October.

Haliburton County councillors heard a presentation from board president Scotty LaRue and member Roger Trull during a May 26 online council meeting.

The hall of fame has been a project three

years in the making, with the organization becoming a member of the Haliburton County Community Co-operative in 2020.

"We are hoping to have our first inauguration Oct. 23," LaRue said. "It'll be a

see INAUGURAL page 14

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# Storm element to inaugural Huskies pack

DARREN LUM

Staff Reporter

It's been a few years, but local boys Ryan Hall and Joe Boice are looking forward to playing a full season together for the first time since winning the OMHA championship while playing for the Highland Storm as peewees in 2015.

The pair are excited about being able to live and play at home where friends and family will be able to watch and cheer for them while playing for the Ontario Junior Hockey League's Haliburton County Huskies at the S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena in Minden.

Hall said the opportunity to play in the Highlands was an exciting prospect after being away for all of his junior hockey career, which brought him to the Whitby Fury - who will be rebranded as the Huskies - via trade last season.

The Haliburton player with two years of experience in the OJHL, having played for the Lindsay Muskies and the Trenton Golden Hawks, listed several advantages of playing for the Huskies.

"Just living at home. Just kind of playing in front of a hometown crowd for once. Just being close to the rink and not having to billet anywhere," he said. "It just felt good because I'd been away a long time playing hockey every year. It's been a while since I played here and lived here in the winter."

He loves hockey and always wanted to play major junior hockey and make it to the NHL, but he has accepted this could be his final year of playing and he appreciates getting to finish at home and having the opportunity to mentor younger players.

"I guess playing in front of people that I know. Even like younger kids that are inspired to be at the level that me and all the other people that are on the team some day ... inspiring little kids. Just helping out in the community is nice too because every other team I've been on we've done a lot of stuff. It's nice to help out and give back and go into the schools. Or go on the ice with the younger kids and staff. I always thought that would be nice," he said.

Hall remembers how hockey fandom here can reach a feverish pitch, particularly during a championship run.

"When I played high school hockey there was always a lot of fans and when I was in [peewee] we won the all-Ontario [championship] with the Storm. It was crazy. Minden and Haliburton arena were both packed every game. It was really amazing," he said.

That was the last full season he played with his friend,



Boice.

"We haven't got to play since that time together when we won the championship. It's nice to have hometown guys. Guys that know the area. Knows the experience of Haliburton ... show Haliburton County experience to everybody and show what Haliburton County is about," he said.

Boice, who signed with the team as a free agent last season, played seven games [regular and playoffs] due to a shortened season because of COVID-19. He left an impression on the coach and his teammates for his imposing size at well over 6-feet tall and his physicality, but also his sense of humour.

"He likes to play that physicality game, which is nice. He'll stick up for any teammate and he'll start that learning process of being a junior A hockey player ... he obviously had a taste. We check in with him all the time. He's working out with Owen Flood in his home gym right now and is putting in the time needed to be ready for training camp come August," Hall said.

Off and on the ice Boice has exhibited a strong work ethic, he adds.

Boice has shown to get along with the other players, making everyone smile.

"Joe's a funny kid. He keeps spirits flowing and happy. He is a character kid for sure. All the older guys thought he was pretty funny last year when he came in," he said.

The team's head coach and GM Ryan Ramsay said this season presents a unique opportunity for the two local players to not just play a high level of hockey, but also to do it at home.

"At their home centre I don't think they would really have imagined it a year ago, or six months ago. I'm sure they are excited getting to play in front of their hometown crowd," he said.

Boice said "It's a dream come true playing for your home team."

The 18-year-old from West Guilford, who played a season for the Red Hawks has aspirations to take his skills to college level hockey.

After his short stint with the Fury (now Huskies), he said there was a level of comfort that he reached in his rookie year and will be able to carry forward to this season.

He hopes with a junior team in the Highlands it will inspire younger players to work towards playing in the league.

"I just want to see kids in the community playing good hockey," he said.

His role-models growing up were current NHL player Matt Duchene and retired NHL player Bernie Nicholls.

Team owner Paul Wilson said adding the local players to the roster was important for the fan connection, but was also related to the character they both possessed, which fit with the team culture.

"We want these kids to be gentlemen. We want them to be educated because a lot of them are playing for us when they could play in the OHL, but they want scholarships to US universities. I think the community is going to find that these guys are all gentleman. They're serious. They're not out there partying. They're wrapped up in the hockey 100 per cent," he said.

Ramsay said the two local players were chosen for their skills on the ice and their character off of it.

Ramsay called Hall a "great kid" that works hard, possesses a strong skill set, and displays strong hockey IQ.

"He's blossomed into a really good OJHL defence-man," he said. "He has great character. He's a quiet kid, but he leads by example on the ice and off the ice, which is obviously a great [characteristic] to have from a coaching perspective."

This will be Hall's third year in the league, so the coach said he'll be looked upon for leadership and to help with the newer players. Being local, Hall will also be expected to educate the visiting players about the culture and what life is like here in the Highlands.

At first glance, the two additional years of experience

see RAMSAY page 16

## Dimensions Health Centres will be a 'general mental health and wellness space'

from page 1

for clinical benefit in a range of areas including training psychedelic practitioners, hosting small clinical trials, healing traumatic brain injury, addressing compassion fatigue and moral injury among healthcare providers and first responders, responding to COVID-19-related trauma and grief, and shorter stays designed for couples or individuals seeking rejuvenation and reconnection.

The property most recently served as the Mishpacha Resort, a Hasidic Jewish retreat centre. Dimensions took ownership of the property in late February.

While the company only went public with the news it had purchased the site last week, rumours of a deal have been swirling across the community for months. Since early March, the *Echo* has received four separate inquiries from residents seeking more information about Dimensions and their plans for the Maple Lake property.

When asked to comment on the rumour that Dimensions would be turning the site into a drug rehabilitation clinic, Dawson was firm.

"We definitely are not a drug rehab facility. Not at all. We're not providing medical services of any kind," Dawson said. "We view ourselves as being adjacent to that [field] in the sense that we are trying to be in the general mental health and wellness space, but we are not a drug rehab centre. This is not a destination for individuals that need drug treatment."

He added, "If somebody was to present themselves to Dimensions seeking treatment, we would send them elsewhere."

Aaron David is a company director with Dimensions, and has been overseeing some of the early renovation projects at the site.

"We're using the existing footprint of the buildings and giving them a massive refresh. We're also building some beautiful new cabins where some old cabins existed, and updating the old lodge that was there quite extensively," David said. "The idea is to modernize everything, but pay homage to traditional designs of the Haliburton region."

Plans for the property include the construction or restoration of 16 individual cabins, a state-of-the-art spa and an updated lodge, which will boast four or five bedrooms, as well as communal gathering areas.

David confirmed the Dimensions team has been in discussions with staff from the Algonquin Highlands planning department for several months, culminating in the recent issuance of building permits for the site. In an email sent to the *Echo* on Friday afternoon [May 28], Algonquin Highlands mayor Carol Moffatt said those permits have, at least temporarily, been revoked.

Moffatt suggested the municipality wanted further clarification from Dimensions regarding their intentions for the site.

"Communications between the new property owners and staff involved the property continuing as a tourist establishment, which is its current zoning. Building permits were issued, however, in light of additional information received about the intended use of the property, a 'Stop Work' order has been issued until further discussions are held," Moffatt wrote. "A zoning amendment, which is a participatory public process, may be required."

"While Algonquin Highlands supports growth and development it also has an obligation to uphold its land-use regulations. We look forward to an outcome that's in the best interest of the community," she concluded.

Dawson believes these concerns boil down to language

used in the press release announcing Dimensions' purchase of the site that he wishes he could take back. He noted too that he, as well as some other members of his senior administrative team, have extensive experience working in the drug rehabilitation industry, which may be another bone of contention.

He remains confident though that Dimensions will be in a position to open its doors to guests, on a preliminary basis, sometime in 2021.

"We'll be offering things like yoga, meditation, something called sound baths, which is sound therapy. We're going to be doing breathing work, which is another therapeutic element of connecting body and mind. There will be massages, a sauna - a lot of spa-like elements," Dawson noted. "We're also trying to build an elaborate set of walking trails through the property. It's really meant to be a retreat where people can disconnect from the city, disconnect from their phone, immerse themselves in nature and try and get a renewed sense of mental and physical health. We very much view ourselves as trying to connect mind and body."

In total, Dawson expects Dimensions' initial investment in the Maple Lake property to exceed \$10 million. Over the coming months, he expects to hire up to a dozen individuals to help run the soon-to-be 5-star facility once it's operational. As the business grows, and COVID-19 restrictions loosen, plans to turn the business into a multi-season operation could lead to the creation of 30 further full-time and part-time positions.

"We're taking this opportunity very seriously. We want to be here for a long, long time. We want to be part of this community," Dawson said. "This will be our first location. We feel Haliburton [County] is the ideal place for us to set up."



# Roasty Toasty Campfire Wood focus of 11-year-old entrepreneur

SUE TIFFIN

Staff Reporter

Olivia Irvine is Haliburton County's newest business owner.

The 11-year-old Haliburton resident describes her entrepreneurial pursuit as being "really cool," a project that launched after she read a book recommended by her dad, *Rich Kid, Smart Kid: Giving Your Child A Financial Head Start* by Robert T. Kiyosaki.

"My dad got this book about financial stuff, and he wished that he had read it 20 years ago, so he bought the kids' version for me, and it was really educational, so my parents thought that I should start my own business so I can learn how to work and I can learn how to manage my finances," said Olivia.

"I learned about assets and liabilities, how to make your money work for you, and investments," she said.

Using money she had saved from Christmas and birthday gifts, and from bake sales she's held, Olivia connected with some very important suppliers.

"My Nana and Papa had a bunch of trees down, and firewood would be pretty easy to do," she said of her business concept.

And so Roasty Toasty Campfire Wood opened to customers about a week ago, with bags of hardwood and softwood being offered at the end of Olivia's driveway, and at the end of her Nana and Papa's driveway.

"I used the money I've been saving up and I bought bags for the firewood, and I pack the wood in the bags, and helped build the structure and designed the logo and came up with the name and bought all the signs and stuff," she said.

The name for the business came easily.

"When you think of campfires, you usually think of roasting marshmallows, so that's where I got roasty from, and campfires are always toasty, so ... Roasty Toasty!" explained Olivia.

Her dad has helped cut the wood, and Olivia sees good prospects in the business continuing for a few years with a little help from other local suppliers.

"There's wood everywhere that my parents' friends are saying they have," she told the *Echo*. "We have wood behind our house, and wood behind my neighbours' house and wood behind my dad's friends house."

“

*I learned about assets and liabilities, how to make your money work for you, and investments.*

— Olivia Irvine, business owner

So far, business has been "going good." Olivia said she's sold five bags, though she usually doesn't see her customers, as she's also managing online school as a Grade 6 JDHES student. Proceeds from sales will help further Olivia's goals.

"I'm going to invest it in future businesses, and invest it in my education," she said.

Olivia said she was grateful for support from her parents, Sean and Lisa Irvine, and her Nana and Papa, Bill and Brooke Irvine.

While Sean said that at first Olivia was afraid to let go of the money she had saved, the book taught her about taking risks, and that big risk can sometimes equal big reward.

"I'm excited for her that she's trying to do something with her life," said Lisa. "Kids like to sit and watch TV and my kids like to sit and watch TV and sometimes it's hard to get them motivated, so this will give her something to do on the weekends, and she goes to check on it every night. Something to do and something to look forward to. She loves helping people and hugging people, that's her favourite thing. She's a lovey gal, so she likes that she's helping people."

While Olivia has managed the business, she is also the company spokesperson. Her sign notes, "Hi, I'm Olivia. I'm 11 years old. This is my first business. I'm excited to work for you!" But she herself sells the product easily when asked why customers should support Roasty Toasty Campfire Wood.

"It's not very expensive," she said.

Roasty Toasty Campfire Wood is available at Meadowview Road, and 1133 Bitter Lake Road in Haliburton.



Haliburton resident Olivia Irvine, 11, has started her first business, which is operating from two locations. Roasty Toasty Campfire Wood is available at the end of her driveway, and at the end of her Nana and Papa's driveway. /Submitted photo

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# Progress Pride flag to fly at TLDSB schools

SUE TIFFIN

Staff Reporter

The following are brief reports of items discussed at the board of trustees meeting of Trillium Lakelands District School Board held virtually on May 25.

As reported in the *Echo*, at the May 11 TLDSB board meeting, it was announced that the Progress Pride flag will be raised at the Muskoka Education Centre and Lindsay Education Centre for the month of June. At the most recent board meeting, Jennifer Johnston, superintendent of learning, said that in support of Two-Spirit, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex, Asexual, Plus communities, the Progress Pride flag will also be raised at schools throughout the Trillium Lakelands District School Board region from June 21 to June 30.

"Since 2012, TLDSB has promoted positive space as one of many opportunities for system learning under the umbrella of Ontario's equity and inclusive education strategy," said Johnston, at the May 11 meeting. "There are students, staff, parents and guardians in our school communities who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, plus. The goal of positive space has always been to create and identify safer inclusive spaces for LGBTQ+ communities within TLDSB."

The Progress Pride flag, which expands upon the classic rainbow Pride flag, was selected through consultation with student trustees as the variation of the rainbow flag "as a symbol of respect and celebration of the 2SLGBTQIA+ community" to be flown by TLDSB this year. The flag



The Progress Pride version of the Pride flag will fly at the Trillium Lakelands District School Board's Muskoka Education Centre and Lindsay Education Centre for the month of June. / Submitted

was designed in 2018 to represent inclusion and intersectionality between racialised identities and gender identity alongside sexuality.

Positive Space documents and website pages will also be updated, and educators are to be supported with curriculum connections and resources "to further embed 2SLGBTQIA+ perspectives into classroom instruction."

"The rainbow colours of the Pride flag have long been a symbol of hope and peace and raising the flag will visibly highlight the continued commitment to ensuring equity, dignity, well-being, diversity and inclusion of the 2SLGBTQIA+ community in TLDSB," read highlights from the board meeting.

## Planning for September full of 'moving pieces'

The school board is currently planning for both in-school and at-home learning for the 2021/22 year.

TLDSB parents were asked to register for online learning by June 1, or be placed in in-school learning in September.

"We recognize that this may be a difficult choice and ask that you carefully consider your decision, as students will not have the opportunity to switch learning options during the school year," said the May 20 letter home to parents.

Hahn acknowledged the decision was difficult for parents who want to know more about what school options will look like prior to making a choice, but also that the school board could not plan without knowing how many students would be enrolled in each option.

"That's really important that we have those numbers first," he said. "I know that's a difficult one for parents because we want to know exactly what it looks like first. We can't do that because we can't build something knowing our staff and our budget are so tight, without having the exact numbers because the student numbers really direct where our staffing goes. Until we know where those students are going to reside for next year, we have to get those numbers first."

"I think you know how much time right now and how much attention is planned for September," said Hahn. "It's not an easy process, because it involves a lot of pieces like budget, like staffing, and we don't take that lightly because we can't afford to make any mistakes. We know how tight our budget is with regards to supporting our September plan."

"The other part to this, we know that there are varying parent views to returning to school or remaining at Learn at Home, or wearing masks - there's all sorts of different views. We understand parents are looking out for the best interests of their children and we expect that and appreciate that but there's a number of things that we have to follow."

Hahn said a quadmester or octomester set-up was being looked at for secondary school again, and that many of the pandemic-related protocols put in place last year would remain this year.

"We do know as of today there will be co-horting still in place, masking still in place, our health and safety protocols and cleaning will still be in place, but that could all change and those directives could be changing as we get closer to September," he said. "But right now, that's what it's looking at. Not a whole lot of change in school, in elementary."

see HAHN page 16

## End-of-school year return a waiting game

TLDSB director Wes Hahn said that while the school board wants "students back in school," they continue to wait for the go-ahead from the chief medical officer of health, ministry, and public health units, noting that the government's re-opening plan is based on vaccinations.

The meeting happened Tuesday, prior to Premier Doug Ford's letter on Thursday [May 27] to medical experts, educators and health organizations looking for input on how schools might open safely for the remainder of the school year in light of modelling showing a surge in COVID-19 cases by the end of July if schools were to reopen in June, teachers and education staff having received only a first dose of vaccine and possibility that the vaccines are not effective against the variant first identified in India. Ford requested a response to seven questions by the next day, Friday at 5 p.m.

Dr. David Williams, chief medical officer of health, said Tuesday [May 25] he would like to see schools reopen prior to the province's reopening in mid-June, and said most public health units support reopening schools.

"The vaccines are really rapidly moving along quite quickly," said Hahn. "And again I'll make this statement, a very positive statement, that this really has an impact on us returning in September, because we will have most of our staff vaccinated, and our [students aged] 12-to-17-year-olds starting on May 31. We will have a considerable amount of our students and staff vaccinated so that's very, very positive for us and it's moving quickly."

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# Overwhelming support for HHOA bottle drive

DARREN LUM

Staff Reporter

Thank you, community.

That's the message from the Haliburton Highlands Outdoors Association (HHOA) after what is being characterized as a successful bottle drive fundraiser.

During the pandemic, which is nearing 15 months, the volunteer run organization that helps with educating the public, raising fish and stocking lakes in Haliburton County was left with few options to raise money to cover expenses with COVID-19 protocols impacting many of their money-making operations.

With thousands of empty bottles and cans in front of him on the last official day for collection, HHOA member Tim LaRiviere, who was the contact for this drive was amazed by the outpouring of support for this effort during May.

"It's way beyond our expectations that we were going to get, so we'll probably end up collecting ... at least \$2,500 in beer returns, if not, \$3,000," he said. "Between the beer cans and the other stuff, I would guesstimate at least 10,000 [bottles]."

LaRiviere said this will help to cover operational activities, which would have typically been covered by fundraising events such as the Wild Game Dinner in years without the pandemic.

"We're kind of struggling to keep our heads afloat on an operational basis. For what we need for pumps, fishing [equipment], or whatever we need around the hatchery itself. That's what it's going for," he said.

The HHOA operates the fish hatchery, located on Gelert Road, and since 1998 has raised and stocked more than 700,000 fish in more than 100 lakes throughout Haliburton County and surrounding areas.

LaRiviere said a bottle drive was held last year during hunting season to see how it would go, and it raised close to \$1,200 after expenses.

"So we decided to try it again in the spring to see how it would go and we got an overwhelming response ... as you can see," he said, pointing to the collection.

This effort was possible because of the dozen or so volunteers who regularly helped twice a week with sorting and transporting the empty beer and alcohol containers to the Beer Store in Haliburton. This grew to a few more days in the last week because of the generosity of the community.

The Beer Store staff, he said, were very accommodating and are part of the fundraiser's success.

"We always called them before hand, whether they could handle this or not because they have other customers to deal with. But they have been really, really tremendous in helping us and we just tried to coordinate back and forth," he said.

Although the bottle drive has ended, the HHOA is leaving the space for another bottle drive fundraiser to benefit the Snowflake Meadows Rescue, founded by Haliburton's Kristyn Begbie. This one will accept drop-offs for the month of June.

LaRiviere said there is hope to hold the annual Wild Game Dinner event later in the year than September, but it's not clear if that will be able to happen due to the ongoing pandemic.

"Basically this is our only fundraising event because we can't do anything else because of COVID-19," he said.



Haliburton Highlands Outdoors Association volunteers Tim LaRiviere, from left, Peter Warren, Michael Mardus, and Nick Bryant were busy sorting thousands of empty bottles and cans for their bottle drive fundraiser on what was technically the last day on Thursday, May 27 at the fish hatchery in Haliburton. LaRiviere said he was amazed and overwhelmed by the donations from the community for the month-long effort, which will help the HHOA cover operational expenses. This drive will be the HHOA's major fundraiser of the year with pandemic related restrictions preventing in-person fundraising events. / DARREN LUM Staff



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146 Highland Street, P.O. Box 360,  
Haliburton, ON, K0M 1S0  
• 705-457-1037 • Fax 705-457-3275  
Published by White Pine Media Corp



**DAVID ZILSTRA**  
Publisher and Ad Director, ext. 37,  
david.zilstra@gmail.com

**MIKE BAKER**, Editor  
ext. 39, mike@haliburtonpress.com

**JENNIFER MCEATHRON**, Admin  
jenniferm@haliburtonpress.com

**DEBBIE COMER**, Circulation  
debbie@haliburtonpress.com

**CHAD INGRAM**, Reporter  
chad@haliburtonpress.com

**DARREN LUM**, Reporter  
ext. 38, darren@haliburtonpress.com

**SUE TIFFIN**, Reporter  
sue@haliburtonpress.com

**KAREN LONDON**,  
Production Co-ordinator  
karen@haliburtonpress.com

**STACEY POTATIVO**, Production

**APRIL MARTIN**, Production

**LAURA SMITH**, Sales  
ext. 32, laura@haliburtonpress.com

**PAUL BANELOPOULOS**, Sales  
paul@haliburtonpress.com

**PAT LEWIS**, Inside Sales  
classifieds@haliburtonpress.com

Forever in our memories: Creighton Feir

## Reconciliation through action

WHILE THERE has been an outpouring of support online after the discovery last week of the remains of 215 children buried at the former Kamloops Indian Residential School, it's not enough.

For years – generations – the stories of what happened in these church-run and government-funded genocidal residential schools, the last of which closed in 1996, have been shared orally by those who witnessed violence as children themselves. Rampant sexual and physical abuse is well-documented by survivors. Historical records at the Kamloops school detailed that 50 children had died at the institution but the Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc First Nation has done the work to ensure a more accurate record and to protect those remains and honour the lives of the lost children and provide closure for their families.

This needs to be the work of all of us, beyond simply sending our thoughts and prayers, or expressing our outrage.

Based on death records, the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation has estimated more than 4,000 children died at the schools, but the number is most likely higher – more than 6,000 kids never returned home of the 150,000 First Nations, Métis and Inuit children who were forced to attend at least 139 schools throughout the country.

While Premier Doug Ford announced on Saturday that he had asked for the flags at all Ontario government buildings and establishments across the province be flown at half-mast in memory of the children, his government also made cuts in 2019 to the Indigenous Culture Fund and to specialized school programs that included an Indigenous curriculum.

While Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said, in responding to the

news of the Kamloops discovery, 'we are here for you,' the Canadian government has, since 2013, spent more than \$3 million in legal costs fighting survivors of St. Anne's Indian Residential School. Long-term drinking water advisories are still in effect in some Indigenous communities and families say more needs to be done to address violence against Indigenous women and girls, as outlined in the 2019 National Inquiry on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls.

Flags at half-mast, orange T-shirts at school, and articles shared on social media are an important piece of moving forward with education and awareness, but that understanding has to lead to the action Indigenous communities have been pleading for for decades.

Speak up against racism, even when it's at your family dinner, especially if it's in front of your children and grandchildren. Read the 94 calls to action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission final report. The report on unmarked graves is available here: [http://www.trc.ca/assets/pdf/Volume\\_4\\_Missing\\_Children\\_English\\_Web.pdf](http://www.trc.ca/assets/pdf/Volume_4_Missing_Children_English_Web.pdf).

Learn about how structural disadvantage continues to affect Indigenous children and families in Canada today and donate toward efforts to help offer more equitable opportunities here: <https://fncaringsociety.com/donate>.

Take even a few minutes to contact your political representatives to call on the governments of Canada and Ontario to fund Indigenous communities to find other missing children in mass graves on the sites of former residential schools.

Take time to mourn, but also to urge action and act.

*For immediate assistance to those who may need it, the National Indian Residential School crisis line is available 24 hours a day at 1-866-925-4419.*



sue  
tiffin

## Editorial



Remembering the 215

by Darren Lum

## Chillin' in the afternoon

IT WAS hard to believe it had come to this. Lying beneath the old cottage window, Charlie watched the maple leaves dancing in the breeze. Sunlight filtered through them sending a trembling pattern across the bedspread. Nap time. Just like when he was a kid.

But Charlie never thought he'd be one of those old guys who had to have an afternoon nap. Yet here he was, stretched out and more comfortable than he'd like to admit. Even if he didn't actually nod off, reclining on the soft old mattress surrounded by the smells of bush and lake was indeed a treat.

The bed had belonged to his parents, both of whom were now long gone. However the bed remained and it was everyone's favourite when they came to the cottage. There was something about the enormous old single-pane window open and attached to a ceiling hook over the bed, that drew tired bodies. It seemed to say, 'rest here and forget about the world for a little while.'

Charlie could hear the loons out in the bay, the robin tending her nest over the porch door and the grandchildren tearing around outside in search of worms, frogs and centipedes. For them, the world was full of hidden surprises under rocks and inside hollow logs. He remembered what it was like to escape the city and feast on nature for a little while.

All children grow up far too quickly, not realizing this special time is fleeting. Charlie's oldest grandchild was pushing 12 years-old and on the cusp of adolescence. Soon he'd be more interested in checking out the girls on the lake than looking for bugs and turtles.

When he was younger Charlie used to tell him bedtime stories as the two of them lay on this very bed. The night would come creeping over the forest with all those nighttime sounds carried on its back. Later the raccoons would chortle down by the river while a chorus of frogs made beautiful background music.

The bedtime stories could be repeated with minor variations and his grandson

Mark never seemed to mind. He even had his favourites. Jimmy the worm who lived in an apple was always a hit. And there was the tree elf who rode on the back of a friendly owl. Mark and Charlie would lie side-by-side, looking up at the wooden rafters as Charlie spun a tale of special places inhabited by magical creatures only children knew about. By the end of the tale, young eyes had become heavy and then it was off to the bunk bed and a deeply peaceful sleep.

Now it was Charlie's turn to feel his own eyes begin to droop. After a morning of deck repairs and weeding the garden, he knew he needed to put his feet up and rest for a while. Still he longed for more energy. There was always so much to be done. An old cottage was in constant need of fixing, replacing and painting. He liked to keep it in good shape. But then by afternoon he needed to take a break and there was the old bed, softly waiting for a tired back and heavy eyes.

He could feel himself starting to nod off when the porch door banged shut. Someone had come in and Charlie knew by the footsteps it had to be Mark. Probably heading for the fridge since he had not one but two hollow legs.

Just then Mark stuck his head around the door frame, seeing Charlie lying in everyone's favourite spot.

"Hey grandpa," he smiled, taking in the scene. "Looks like you're just chillin' for a while. Maybe later we can check out the bass in the bay. I got us lots of worms. Would you be up for that after supper?"

Charlie agreed that was a good plan. They both liked bass for breakfast.

Then the head was gone and all was quiet once more. Charlie looked out through the window screen as Mark's brown hair passed by on its way to the beach. There would be hours of swimming and diving and lying on the dock. Charlie remembered those days. But for now, he was just chillin'.

## Down



sharon  
lynch

## Our road

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# points of view

## Canadian graffiti

I HAVE NEVER understood why some people feel the need to create graffiti. But the other day while walking in Head Lake Park, Jenn and I encountered an installation of graffiti that forced each of us to react in uncomfortable ways.

For there on a lonely park bench, some tortured artist had taken the time to spray-paint the word “Weed” in large green letters.

I won’t lie to you. The work left me more than a bit confused. Mostly because it was a bench and not a dandelion. So, I looked at Jenn with the snobbish and fake thoughtfulness of someone feigning an appreciation for art and said, “It would have been more powerful had it said ‘Bench’.”

At least that would have provided a public service.

You see I’m fairly certain that spray-painting the names of things such as fountains, lamp posts, pathways, benches, monkey bars, ducks and pigeons, right on them, would be extremely helpful to many of us older folks. That way, when we point to the object and momentarily forget what we are supposed to call it, we’d see the graffiti and be reminded of the name that slipped our minds.

On the other hand, spray painting “Weed” on a park bench can lead to nothing but confusion and awkward sentences like, “I could enjoy myself on that weed all day just watching ducks.”

I understand this was probably not the intention of the visionary who created that glorious urban masterpiece. No, I’m sure that right after he or she finished spray painting the bench, they probably stepped back, looked at it said, “Now that’s going to make a difference...”

And it should, I suppose.

For graffiti, at its highest levels, is more than just the scribbles of an independent and tortured artist who liberated a half a can of spray paint from their dad’s garage. No, graffiti is an artform unto itself. And it relies on words and depictions of things usually reserved for a passed-out friend’s forehead.

Its primary purpose is to remind society of what is current, socially relevant, and important to the common folk. As such, it is an art for the everyman. And, as simple as it is, it is also a complex and nuanced visual that uses a modern media against an urban backdrop. And, in doing so, brings important and often subversive ideas to the forefront where we can all confront them head on.

The brave, anonymous artist who created that masterpiece on that park bench was not the dim-witted simpleton his work suggests. No, that person was clearly a cultural revolutionary who knew that the very idea of painting the word “Weed” on a park bench was a highly subversive act that would one day cause us all to rise up against a rigged system that created generic park benches lacking both soul and dignity.

Yes, that person knew exactly what they were doing – which was to shake us all up so that we might act to make even one little corner of the world a better place.

Well, I can tell you that work inspired at least one person. You see, after seeing that bench, we arrived home, Jenn handed me a hoe, pointed to the garden, and said “Weed.”

For the record, I haven’t visited the park since.



steve  
galea

Loon Tales



## pic of the past

The Haliburton Rotary Club and the local carnival committee paired up to release this pin in the early 1960s. Doreen Rae, who submitted this pin for publication, says the pin “was so true to the area” and the Haliburton community. /Submitted by Doreen Rae

## letters to the editor

### Long-term effects still to be seen

I thought the editorial in the May 18 edition of the *Echo*, focusing on this third provincewide lockdown, was right on point. The harm associated with the shutdowns, is outweighing the benefits.

The editor talks about the impacts on businesses that we will feel for a long time. But don’t forget the adverse effect of online schooling, and the lack of in-person classroom interactions on our youth. I’m afraid we haven’t yet seen the real long-term effects of this.

I was talking to my doctor in his office last week. Both he and I have received both courses of vaccination, yet we were both mandated to wear masks and remain socially distant. He pointed out that there was no scientific basis for this.

Hopefully with the increasing numbers of people vaccinated, we will see an end to the (sometimes politically motivated) shutdowns.

Dave Sands  
Haliburton

## Ontario’s Roadmap to Reopen explained

As we move into June, we edge ever closer to the end of this third Ontario-wide lockdown, which has been in place since April 8.

On June 2, the Stay-at-Home order that has been in place for the past several weeks will expire. Unfortunately, this doesn’t mean life will be returning to normal.

Back on May 20, Premier Doug Ford unveiled Ontario’s ‘Roadmap to Reopen’, a three-step plan that he claims will safely and gradually lift public health measures based on the ongoing progress of provincewide vaccination rates and improvements of key public health and health care indicators.

### Step 1

This will see an initial focus on resuming outdoor activities with smaller crowds where risk of transmission is lower, and permitting retail with restrictions. This includes:

- Outdoor gatherings of up to 10 people
- Outdoor dining with up to four people per table
- Non-essential retail at 15 per cent capacity.
- Campsites, campgrounds and short-term rentals, and overnight camping at Ontario parks

While there has been no official confirmation from the provincial government yet, it is expected that Step 1 will begin on June 14.

### Step 2

Outdoor activities will be further expanded, while indoor services will be allowed to reopen at limited capacity with face coverings to be worn at all times. This includes:

- Outdoor gatherings of up to 25 people
- Outdoor sports and leagues
- Overnight camps
- Personal care services where face coverings can be worn and with capacity limits

- Indoor religious services, rites or ceremony gatherings at 15 per cent capacity.
- Non-essential retail boosted to 25 per cent capacity

### Step 3

This will see the access expanded to indoor settings, with some restrictions, including where there are larger numbers of people and where face coverings can’t always be worn. This includes:

- Indoor sports and recreational fitness
- Indoor dining
- Museums, art galleries, movie theatres and libraries
- Casinos and bingo halls with capacity limits

### Moving through the steps

The province will remain at each step for at least 21 days to evaluate any impacts on key public health and health system indicators. At the end of those 21 days, officials will evaluate vaccination rates and look for positive trends in other key public health and health system indicators. If trends in key public health and health system indicators are positive, the province will move to the next step two weeks after the following vaccination thresholds have been met:

**Step 1:** 60 per cent of adults vaccinated with one dose

**Step 2:** 70 per cent of adults vaccinated with one dose and 20 per cent vaccinated with two doses

**Step 3:** 70 to 80 per cent of adults vaccinated with one dose and 25 per cent vaccinated with two doses



# Lions club calling on community to show their love for Haliburton

Haliburton & District Lions Club members Gail Stelter (left), Tina Hadley (centre) and Gerald Hadley (right) pitched up in front of Glecoff's on Friday afternoon as they launched their Button Up With the Lions fundraiser. Purchase a pin today for \$5! /MIKE BAKER STAFF



MIKE BAKER  
*Editor*

A new fundraiser is giving local residents the opportunity to show just how much they love Haliburton.

The Haliburton & District Lions Club kicked off their Button Up with the Lions initiative last week, selling pins with the message 'I love Haliburton' for \$5.

"This fundraiser is unique in that it celebrates Haliburton, identifies the wearers as ambassadors, and demonstrates our caring for our hometown," said Lions club member Gail Stelter. "Many years ago I was involved with the Girl Guides of Canada, and we did this as a fundraiser then. I had forgotten all about it until I was cleaning out a drawer one day recently and found a button. So I brought it to a meeting, presented it to the Lions Club and they loved it."

She added, "It was very successful all those years ago, because it just supports your community."

A team of three volunteers were set up outside Glecoff's Family Store on Highland St. on Friday evening, where they enjoyed a successful launch, with dozens of buttons sold. Stelter says the Lions will have a presence downtown every Friday and Saturday throughout June, where residents can stop by to purchase a pin.

The money raised through this initiative will support the Lions' many programs across Haliburton County.

"This will go to all of our projects and things we do at the club, which varies from helping individuals through our health and welfare fund, having an emergency fund for tragedies such as a fire, and helping other service clubs and people in town who are doing worthwhile things," Stelter said. "The money will also help to fund our own service projects, which are very dear to our heart. Right now we're focusing on our Enchanted Forest service project at Abbey Gardens. We also have our Reading Action program at our libraries, and we do hope to once again, this summer, be able to do our Stories in the Park funfair."

Stelter has 1,000 buttons to sell, which, if successful, would add \$5,000 to the Lions club's coffers.

She believes the community will step up and ensure the fundraiser is a success – after all, who doesn't love Haliburton?

"Especially during these times, with such negativity, it's a positive message to put out to the community," Stelter said. "And Haliburton really is a great community. I love it for so many reasons. I love the natural beauty of Haliburton. I love being amongst the forest and the lakes. I love Haliburton because of the people – they're so friendly, kind to one another and caring of one another. I love Haliburton because it's fun."

To purchase a button, contact Gail Stelter at [gatesstelter@gmail.com](mailto:gatesstelter@gmail.com), or call 705-455-2772

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“Growing up, when it was time for the first swim of the season, my sisters and I would race across the dock to be first in the lake. And right behind us was Taffy, always thinking we needed rescuing.”

- Pat Williams, Eagle Lake



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# Unprecedented lumber situation part of perfect storm of factors

DARREN LUM

Staff Reporter

Rising lumber costs in North America have seen record setting prices and there are multiple aspects to it that need to be considered, say affected industry members.

There was a confluence of actions and events before and during the pandemic from sawmill closures, the employing of an economic strategy related to an expectation of weaker demand for lumber and related products during the pandemic to a strong demand for home ownership, spurred on by low interest rates to encourage lending. And then there was how the pandemic itself changed business practices and people's lives.

Malcolm Cockwell, the managing director of the Haliburton Forest's forest product division, which includes the Haliburton Forest Sawmill, Huntsville Forest Products, and the Almaguin Forest products said it's important to remember the spike in lumber prices is related to softwood and not hardwood, which is what the Forest harvests.

"Hardwood lumber has not spiked anything like softwood lumber. In other words, my colleagues and I do not have much skin in the game when it comes to softwood lumber prices," he wrote in an email.

Cockwell, who was named as the Forests of Ontario board of directors' president in April, said the lumber industry is cyclical.

"The sawmills need to 'win' sometimes. This is one of those times. In many cases, the profits generated by the sawmills will be used to pay down debt and invest in equipment upgrades. That refinancing and reinvestment is ultimately very good for the communities and the forests surrounding the sawmills, because it means those sawmills will be competitive when the tough times roll around again," he wrote.

Cockwell said the profits from the higher prices of softwood help everyone in the industry.

"While the big softwood sawmills are doing pretty well these days, not all of the extra margin is going to the sawmills or even to the retailers. There are also brokers, warehouses, railways, and truckers involved. My point is that a lot of people are benefiting from these high prices, and those benefits are being spread around the economy," he wrote.

From his Haliburton location, Emmerson Lumber Limited owner Kim Emmerson has been in the industry for 48 years and has never seen anything like what is happening right now.

"Lumber is a commodity like a lot of commodities like gold, or oil or whatever. It does have swings. There's no doubt about it historically, but it has never, ever, ever swung like this," he said.

He said this situation is about how demand is far exceeding supply.

"People may see stacks of wood around, but basically I can tell you it's very hard to get, so lumber yards have been stocking up as much as they can before they run out. We're not happy about it, but it is the way it is right now," he said.

With locations in Haliburton and Carnarvon, his lumber centres have been busy, leading to exponential growth in purchases for renovations and for new builds.

"I know for our area ... a lot of the seasonal residents are here because they can't work or are working from their cottage. They're doing stuff and a lot of the people are actually bored as well, right? Because maybe they're not working at all. So what are they going to do? They can't go anywhere so what they're going to do is fix whatever up," he said.

There isn't just a scarcity of lumber. This includes plastics and steel. The wait times on ordering have grown, which isn't dissimilar to how people are waiting for newly purchased vehicles and appliances, Emmerson adds.

He's seen the disappointment from customers, but also their understanding.

"We try and be as apologetic as we can be, but then they're used to that in other sectors and things are not the way they used to be, so people have been pretty good. They really don't give us a hard time. They're not happy about it, but they don't give us a hard time about it either. Most people," he said. "Some people have said I'm not going to build that deck or not going to do this because it's ridiculous. They're entitled to that opinion. That's fine ... but other people are saying I don't care what it costs I want it."

Canadian Home Builders' Association CEO Kevin Lee,



'The sawmills need to win sometimes' says Malcolm Cockwell, managing director of the Haliburton Forest and Wild Life reserve in response to the recent spike in lumber prices. /File photo

who has worked in the housing industry for 30 years, said the lumber industry in Canada was challenged before this situation.

"Lumber has historically been volatile and in fact prices were quite low and the Canadian lumber industry was struggling a little bit prior to the pandemic and then it's just skyrocketed and the complete opposite so it's yet another thing that is unprecedented when it comes to COVID-19," he said.

There are two concerns among his members. One, is price, but the other is supply.

"Many of our members are just having a hard time getting a hold of wood products. So that's delaying construction times, both for renovation and for new construction in terms of closings. We just did a survey of our members across the country and on average, lumber and other supply issues are delaying closings by about six weeks. It's quite an issue for everybody," he said.

Another issue with supply was the closure of a major sawmill in British Columbia prior to the pandemic in 2019 and how a low interest rate has motivated people to buy, creating more demand, exceeding supply.

"Really when you look at it it's a tale of supply and demand in two areas ... one is a lack of supply of housing, especially in our larger urban centres and lots of demand ... that's a case even before the pandemic hit. And [two], with the pandemic, there's been such an emphasis on the home that people wanted to invest more," he said.

He added people are looking to create new spaces in and outside of their homes, including work spaces.

The lumber situation isn't only affecting Canada, but all of North America.

"The United States is experiencing the exact same housing boom and it's particularly important with lumber because obviously we export a lot of lumber to the States. It's a totally integrated North American lumber market," he said. "We have huge demand for housing, therefore for lumber. Both in Canada and the United States. And you do not have enough supply. The lumber mills shutdown initially. They've been catching up. In Canada those lumber mills are basically operating back up at a 100 per cent, but in the United States that's not the case. They're still lagging behind and with that kind of demand and a lack of supply you're really seeing lumber prices escalate to record levels."

Haliburton County Builders' Association president Glenn Evans said the average cost increase for wood required for contracting jobs here has been close to 42 per

cent.

"That makes a big difference in both projects big and small," he said. "The question is perhaps how do we deal with it? I don't know."

The co-founder of Cedar Winds said there is a constant challenge with pricing work for the contractor and the client related to the fluctuations of the market.

"Is it going to continue? From an individual contractor's stand point one of the biggest problems we have is we price a job today that may or not get built between now and say, September so the fluctuation in cost between now and September, could be a negative or a positive in today's environment. Over the last 13 or 14 months, it's clearly been a positive as in prices have increased steadily over the last year," he said. "I don't know what the strategy is to try and contain it. The fear for the average customer/client that we have is do we assume that prices are going to increase by another 15 per cent between now and September and build that into our costs? Or do we assume they are going to stay where they are, and, if they do rise by 15 per cent, we're at risk of business not proceeding as usual."

With some work a year away from even beginning, his company has communicated to clients the potential for increased costs related to higher material costs.

Although there are safeguards for contractors in work contracts to ensure compensation is permitted to cover higher material costs that are not within the control of the contractor, Evans said it's not something he or other contractors like to do, or want to do and recognize the potential challenge it poses for customers.

"That's where problems can lie. We as contractors are the messenger. We're just passing on this increased cost to our customers. We're not necessarily saying well this is an opportunity for us to make [money] ... there's no gain to the contractor is the message. Because of the increased lumber prices we're just hoping to cover our costs," he said.

In addition to the rising costs, there are problems surrounding the scarcity of materials.

As the pandemic hit there was an understanding that demand for wood products would slow.

"And then exactly the opposite happened. So, the supply went down because of an expected lowering in the market and the market did not lower. It actually increased so the market went one way, the stock [of supplies] went another way and the prices went up obvi-

see DEMAND page 11



# Show your love for local

WELL IT'S BEEN more than a month since I last wrote about the happenings in and around our village and with the long weekend behind us the cottage season has officially begun.

If you're like me then you are most certainly looking forward to warm weather, the return of the Haliburton Farmers' Market and the gradual reopening of our economy. While many of our downtown businesses are still closed to walk in traffic they are very much open for business! You can purchase items curbside, ask about local delivery or even phone in an order. There are plenty of options to keep your hard earned dollars in Haliburton.

A few weeks ago was my daughter's second birthday and a relative emailed me to say a gift was waiting for her at Master's Bookstore in Haliburton. After a phone call and curbside pick up was arranged, I received the gift and was thrilled to see that store owner Kathy Stouffer had even gone as far as to gift wrap the item. Talk about

first class service! In that moment I was reminded that so many of our local businesses are going above and beyond during this pandemic and their efforts should be applauded. I encourage you to support them by shopping local as much as you can. It really makes a difference.

Our downtown is coming alive again with foot traffic and beautiful banners! The BIA has gone to great lengths this year to dress up the downtown with artwork created by local artists. We hope you enjoy the vibrant depictions of the Haliburton Highlands and stop to appreciate their beauty. The banners are located along Highland Street, Maple Ave. and York St.

It won't be long before flower baskets line Highland Street and bring a blast of summer to our town. Our executive has been working behind the scenes to make sure our town

shines more than ever this summer.

Also coming to our downtown in just a few weeks is the installation of six beautiful sculptures!

The downtown sculptures project is a partnership between the Haliburton BIA and the Sculpture Forest and we are excited to be welcoming it back to Highland Street.

We are thrilled to see the opening of the new Welcome Centre in Head Lake Park. The centre will be an exciting addition to the town as it will offer visitors pertinent information, as well as accessible washrooms for everyone. We hope you get a chance to check it out. A reminder there are refillable water stations located in Head Lake Park near the Rails End Gallery, at the entrance of the Haliburton Highlands Museum and behind the Dysart municipal office near the skatepark. We encourage you to take advantage of them when you are out exploring our beautiful village.

My hope is that by the time you are reading this column in June more of our businesses will be open and welcoming you in. Information about our BIA and local happenings can be found by following us on social media or by emailing [haliburtonbia@mail.com](mailto:haliburtonbia@mail.com)

Until next time, stay safe, stay healthy and stay smiling!

BIA in



angelica  
ingram

The Village

## Demand far outpacing supply

from page 10

ously to try and curb demand," he said.

He acknowledges that while there were shortages of materials during the summer last year, that situation has since improved in the new year for Highlands' contractors and builders.

"Right now there is no threat of not being able to get the lumber or the materials that you need. Now is that going to change over the next six months to a year? It's hard to tell. There are lot of different factors out there that would impact that. There's environmental concerns, as far as forestry and harvesting. There's restrictions happening in that avenue of things that could impact it. We haven't had any catastrophes in the United States. Storm season has been fairly passive. There hasn't been a huge demand for those things like that in the United States. So that means our stocks have been relatively stable. What could happen going through 2021 with some of those things, who knows? The fires in 2020 and 2019 played a role. There are so many different factors that can control or contribute to lumber shortages and those things. Though COVID is not helping, but there are a lot of other aspects that need to be considered," he said.

Cockwell said to not expect demand to lessen anytime soon, which was in part related to home improvements.

"But the demand drivers now go far beyond that. Housing and remodelling/renovation mark ets are expected to stay strong for years to come due to aging housing stock and favourable demographics. There is a point at which high lumber prices will suppress demand, but I do not think we are there yet," he wrote.

He expects supply issues to ease with new sawmill capacity coming online, particularly in the southern U.S. and upgrades to sawmills in northern Ontario. However, supply will be constrained by labour availability to be able to hold second and third shifts when it comes to rural and remote communities where the big softwood sawmills are located, and the permanent closures of sawmills in regions such as British Columbia, where timber supply has been significantly reduced by the Mountain Pine Beetle.

"The spike in softwood lumber prices is a profound reminder for many people as to how much we rely on reasonably-priced forest products in our daily lives, and that reasonably-priced lumber comes from well-managed forests and well-built manufacturing facilities. The same is true for so many other primary, as well as advanced forest products, including firewood, books, rayon, toilet paper, cellophane, medical masks, plywood, food flavourings, LCD screens, pill capsules, and so on," Cockwell wrote.

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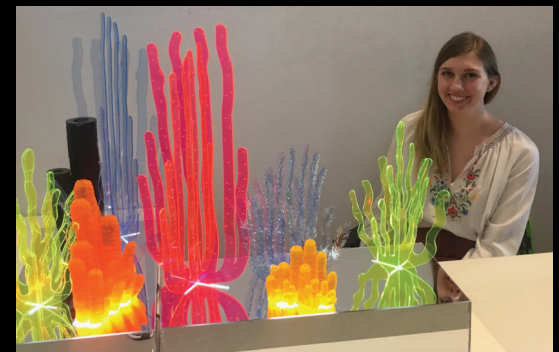


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# Keep the empties coming for Snowflake Meadows Rescue

Founder of Snowflake Meadows Rescue Kristyn Begbie is asking for the community's empties to help with her bottle drive fundraiser to cover expenses related to caring for dogs like Wheely-Wonka, a bull terrier needing a wheelchair to get around, and Harley, a doberman that was neglected and left in a cage with a concrete floor, littered with his own feces before being rescued. Drop off your empties at the Haliburton Highlands Outdoors Association hatchery located on Gelert Road, a few kilometres west of the Village of Haliburton during the month of June. /DARREN LUM Staff



DARREN LUM

Staff Reporter

Founder of the not-for-profit Snowflake Meadows Rescue on Ritchie Falls Road, Kristyn Begbie is picking up where the Haliburton Highlands Outdoors Association left off by continuing a bottle drive to help with the care of her rescue dogs for the month of June.

Like the HHOA drive in May, the community is being asked to leave their empty bottles and cans by the trailer at the fish hatchery any time of the day. Collections will be organized and taken to a local Beer Store on Saturdays.

Begbie said it's comforting to know there will be money coming in to cover various expenses - mostly vet bills - at the rescue with how the pandemic has made it impossible to hold conventional fundraising events.

"It's a huge relief ... it lets me know that dogs that need upcoming surgeries [will be covered]. The vet bills you're looking at for spaying and neutering and [what is required to] bring them up-to-date on shots. You're looking at least \$700 a dog, if not more, depending on what they need," she said.

She adds seeing the success that the HHOA experienced, with thousands of dollars raised, motivated her to hold her own fundraiser. It helped to have it at the HHOA because it was far more convenient to have it away from her rescue.

Begbie, who works for the HHOA part-time, covering administrative duties, is grateful to her employer for this opportunity.

"They're super supportive. Especially with other charitable causes," she said. "Being a not-for-profit, they understand. Especially during these times right now. To make money, funding to support ourselves. I can't thank them enough."

Begbie said she regularly works with Empty Ontario Shelters in helping the OSCPCA and Humane Societies all over Ontario in creating a bridge for rescue dogs, who are not able to thrive in a kennel environment or are not doing well because of medical issues to find new homes.

"At my place, my rescue, it's not a kennel environment. It's a home environment. So, they have two acres of fenced in yard to run around in. They get children to play with and obsess with. And people are coming and going, so they get exposed to everything before they find their homes," she said.

The rescue was started in 2018, but Begbie said she's been involved with caring and helping rescue animals for close to 14 years.

Begbie said helping animals is about giving them a voice.

"So many people give up on their animals and they end up here. A lot of older people don't have places for them to go. Their family members don't want the pets after they've passed on, so having somewhere for them to go where they can get dental care, vet checks and finding them a new home is ... it's that middle spot, that stepping stone to find them a new place," she said.

Keep up to date with Snowflake Meadows Rescue through its Facebook and Instagram page. There will be weekly updates.

“

*It's a huge relief ... it lets me know that dogs that need upcoming surgeries [will be covered]. The vet bills you're looking at for spaying and neutering and [what is required to] bring them up-to-date on shots. You're looking at least \$700 a dog, if not more, depending on what they need.*

— Kristyn Begbie

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- observation towers
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### Grass Lake \$1,199,900

- 4 Bedroom 3.5 Bathroom
- 5 Chain Lake system
- Lots of privacy on 1.8 acres
- 2 min from Haliburton



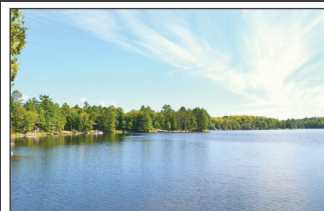
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Dagmar  
Boettcher\*\*  
457-5968

### Kushog Lake \$1,800,000

- 3680 s.f. Viceroy on .91 acres
- 3+ Bedrooms and 3 bathrooms
- Double car garage with upstairs
- 110 ft west facing hard sand entry



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Andy Campbell  
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### Lt Kennis Executive \$1,499,000

- Architecturally Designed Post & Beam Structure
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- Playing Area, Lg Patio / Fire Pit, Deep Off Dock
- Granite, Flag Stone, Lg Beams, Deep Swimming



Gloria  
Carnochan\* &  
Brian Bude\*  
754-1932



**NEW LISTING**



Mark Denny\*  
457-0473

### Haliburton Home \$759,900

- Apprx 172 Ft Rd Frntg, 0.58 Acres, 2428 Sq Ft
- 3 Bdrm, 2 Bath, Open Concept, Att'd Garage
- Partially Finished Bsmt, Private Veranda
- Boat Slip, 2 Boat Launches, Private Park



**NEW LISTING**



Tom Ecclestone\*  
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### Delightful Country Home \$629,000

- 2100 sq feet of living space
- 3 bedrooms/ 2 baths
- Level, landscaped, private lot
- QE Park at your doorstep



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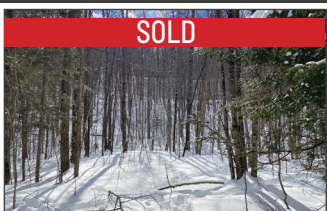
**NEW LISTING**



Andrew Hodgson\*\*  
286-2138 x 229

### Haliburton Lake \$750,000

- 3-Season cottage sitting directly on the lake
- Perfectly flat lot with Eastern exposure
- Clean shoreline, boathouse at water's edge
- Deep water off the dock



**SOLD**



Susanne James\*  
& Andy Mosher\*\*  
457-2128 x 133

### Mink Rd.

- Approx 1 acre, nicely forested, good privacy
- Close to public access to Long/Miskwabi Lake
- Year-round Municipal Road access
- Minutes to Haliburton Village



### Minden Home \$199,000

- 2 bedroom home close to town.
- New Fap furnace. roof resingled 3 yrs ago.
- Easy access needs some TLC.



David Lee\*  
286-2138 x 227

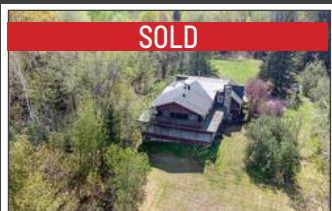


### Drag Lake

- Scandinavian log home
- 1610 sf, 2 bedrooms, 2 baths
- Open concept, cathedral ceilings
- Clean, clear waterfront, large lake



Donna  
McCallum\*  
455-2054



**SOLD**



Brandon  
Nimigon\*\*\*  
457-2128 x 127

### Fortescue Lake \$949,000

- 3970 sf, 6 bdrms, 2 baths
- Restored log room w/stone FP
- 33 wooded acres, 543ft waterfront
- Usable barn for animals or storage



**NEW LISTING**



Karen Nimigon\*\*  
457-6505

### Miskwabi Lk access \$649,000

- 4 season chalet, 3 bdrm, 1 bath
- Open concept kit/DR/LR
- Private, includes abutting lot
- Deed access to lake, incl dock



**SOLD**



Kelly Kay\*  
705-457-6841  
Kirsten Rae\*  
705-854-1454

### Stanhope Airport Rd

- 2 bedroom, 3 bath, 1215 sf
- Perfect starter or retirement home
- Many upgrades, low maintenance
- Central location, close to lake access



### Minnicock Lake Rd \$159,000

- 10 acres, nicely treed on year round road.
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Darlene Reil\*  
447-2055



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**NEW LISTING**



Greg Stamp\*  
457-2128 x 128

### Wilberforce \$799,000

- 3 bdrm, 2 bath country home
- Extensively renovated
- 1.39 acres, swimming pond, fountains
- Stream, 4 waterfalls, privacy



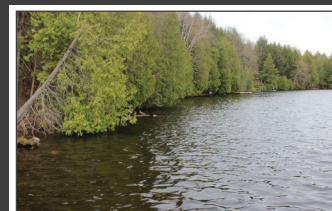
**SOLD**



Melanie Vigrass\*  
286-2138 x 232

### Ingoldsby Area Home \$629,000

- 3 bdrms/2 baths
- Full walk-out Basement, 5.5 acres
- 24'x38' insulated/wired garage w/workshop
- Vegetable Gardens/Chicken Coop/Trails



### Salerno Lake \$349,000

- 172' waterfront Lot, 1.17 acres
- Sunset exposure
- Ideal for walkout basement



Tom Wilkinson\*  
286-2138 x 225



### Percy Lake \$779,000

- Spectacular 4.5 acre building lot
- 1000+ FT of clean rock & sand shoreline
- Afternoon & evening sun, stunning views
- Several building locations to choose from



Andrea Wilson\*  
705-457-6694



**SOLD OVER LIST**



Kirby Keks\*  
705-457-2128  
x138

### Close to Minden

- 8.82 acres 3 Bdrm, 2 Bath
- Walkout basement



**NEW LISTING**



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- 2 bedroom fully furnished cottage
- Additional bunkie sleeps 2
- Great views on 194' waterfront
- Water access only.

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# Inaugural inductees into Haliburton's hall of fame to be announced June 7

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	69							70						

- CLUES ACROSS

1. Plant of the mint family

7. Hand tool

13. Made of the color of gold

14. A volume of several novels

16. Type of degree

17. Good job!

19. Seventh tone in major scale

20. Fevers

22. One's mother

23. Fertile desert spots

25. Large integers

26. Plate for Eucharist

28. Tennis matches have them

29. Peyton's little brother

30. Monetary unit of N. Korea

31. Head movement

33. Twelve

34. Renaissance musical instrument

36. Behavior showing high moral standards

38. Letter of the Hebrew alphabet

40. Notes to be sung

41. Women's garment

43. Coarsely ground corn

44. One point south of due east

45. A way to deplete

47. Rough, prickly covering of a seed
48. LA hoopster, but not a Laker

51. Hindquarters

53. Franz van \_\_, German diplomat

55. Liquid body substances

56. Rhythmic patterns

58. A beaver might build one

59. Police officer's tool

60. Indicates who you are

61. Pinwheel

64. Exist

65. Ornamental molding

67. Closes again

69. Verses

70. Come into view

CLUES DOWN

1. Short stick used as a weapon

2. An alternative

3. Laws

4. Sense organs

5. One from Utah

6. Mariner

7. People in charge of cattle

8. Health insurance organization

9. Ornamental box

10. Forest-dwelling deer

11. One quintillion bytes (abbr.)

12. Atomic #71

13. Become less intense

15. Cowards
18. Body ornament (slang)

21. Applicable to all cases

24. Multiplied by 6

26. Afghanistan monetary unit

27. Calendar month

30. Cena and Lennon are two

32. Monetary unit of Serbia

35. First time on the market

37. Georgia rockers

38. Free from contamination

39. Coastal region of Canada

42. Clothing retailer

43. It rises and sets

46. Fathers

47. Stain with mud

49. Suitable for crops

50. Feels concern for

52. Orange-brown

54. Buddy

55. Late sportscaster Craig

57. Used to align parts

59. Wake up

62. Solid water

63. Semiprecious stone

66. Atomic #45

68. Top lawyer

Answers on page 14

from page 1

gala meeting.”

The board is hoping that COVID-19 restrictions by then will allow a large crowd.

“We have already picked our induction people who are going to go into the hall of fame for the inaugural season,” LaRue said.

There are three categories of inductees; individuals, builders and teams.

Individuals are athletes who’ve achieved great success in their sport. As LaRue explained, the criteria for the individual category include that the person must have lived within Haliburton County for at least five years prior to or during their athletic accomplishments; that that they must have achieved significant recognition or fame; and that they must have been retired from their sport for at least three years, or must be of the age of 40 if still active.

Builders are those who have made significant contribution to the development and advancement of sport in Haliburton County, and must have done so for at least 10 years. Under the teams category, minor sports teams, high school sports teams, and adult sports teams are all eligible.

The hall’s first temporary home will be within the stage area on the upper floor of the A.J. LaRue Memorial Arena in Haliburton Village. The board intends to begin and complete renovations to the stage area in the near future, as well as launch a website. The first list of inductees will be announced on June 7.

“This really is an excellent initiative,” said Algonquin Highlands Deputy Mayor and County Warden Liz Danielsen. “We really do have a long history, a rich history in sport in Haliburton. It’s really good to see the work you are doing.”

Dysart et al Mayor Andrea Roberts said the municipality was happy to provide the hall of fame with its first temporary home, and Minden Hills Mayor Brent Devolin asked what future plans for a location or locations might be.

LaRue said that if Dysart et al at some point constructs a new recreation centre, the hope is the hall of fame would have a dedicated space within that facility. He said the board of directors is also looking to expand its membership beyond Dysart et al, since many current members are residents of the municipality, and to ensure that membership in the hall of fame goes beyond the sport of hockey.

COVID-19 Cases, Hospitalizations, and Deaths by County							
County	Current Cases Not Resolved	Current Probable Cases	Confirmed Cases (Total to date)	Confirmed Cases Resolved (Total to date)	Hospitalizations (Total to date)	Confirmed Deaths (Total to date)	Probable Deaths (Total to date)
Haliburton	0	0	118	117	3	1	0
Kawartha Lakes	97	1	1,012	872	40	43	13
Northumberland	19	0	922	886	31	17	0
Total	116	1	2,052	1,875	74	61	13

## Health unit update reports county is currently COVID-free

Haliburton County continues to have no new daily confirmed COVID-19 cases or active cases of COVID-19, according to the health unit's May 31 update. In that same update, City of Kawartha Lakes added 16 new cases and Northumberland County added five new cases to current case numbers./Screenshot from HKPRDHU



**HALIBURTON HIGHLANDS  
HEALTH SERVICES**

*Leaders in Innovative Rural Health Care*

**25<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of  
Haliburton Highlands Health Services Corporation  
Thursday, June 24, 2021  
2:00 p.m.**

(Meeting Agenda - Business of the Corporation: Reports of the CEO and Board, Chief of Staff, Auditor, Foundation, Nominating Committee, Election of Directors, and Appointment of Auditors)

Due to the limitations on public gatherings mandated by the government of Ontario as a result of the COVID-19 global pandemic, the 25<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Corporation (HHHS) will be held as a virtual meeting conducted through the Zoom application. In order to participate, Corporation members and members of the public who wish to attend will require an invitation, which will provide further information on how to participate.

For further information or to arrange for an invitation, please contact:

Marlene Vieira  
HHHS Administration Office  
Phone: 705-457-2527  
Email: [mvieira@hhhs.ca](mailto:mvieira@hhhs.ca)



# Membership push for Haliburton Mountain Bike Club

DARREN LUM

Staff Reporter

Waiting for the intrepid rider, there's a fulfilling adventure of sweat inducing ascents of single-track that wind its way through the trees, up, over and around boulders and slabs of the Canadian Shield and hair-raising meandering descents that will cause one's heart to skip a beat or two under the green canopy of the Highlands at Glebe Park in Haliburton.

Among local riders that frequented the park's trails, the close to 12 kilometres of predominantly single-track trails for mostly intermediate and advanced riders (with the Nordic ski trails for beginners) were already known, but the new president and executive of the Haliburton Mountain Bike Club, who manage the trail network are looking to expand ridership and grow.

The club has been fuelled by passionate volunteers such as past president of four years Thom Lambert and that will continue with a new executive and new president Mike Darlington.

Darlington said Lambert was a long-serving president that has wanted to step down for the past two years, so when local rider Owen Flood offered to assist he stepped up.

There has been a positive reaction



Local rider Blake Paton rides at the Glebe Park mountain bike trails last week. /DARREN LUM Staff

already from the community related to the club's drive for new members and volunteers, he said.

"Once this decision was announced it was as if I pushed a snowball down a hill. It just kept rolling and getting bigger as riders volunteered to assist," he said.

Currently, the club has a little more than 30 members, which has grown from 24 last year. This will give the club a stronger voice in the community and will be beneficial when making requests to the Dysart et al Glebe Park and Museum Committee to perform trail work or to

enhance the rider experience.

The new executive includes Darlington, Mike Gervais, social media coordinator and website developer, Erin Smith, membership, Mike Rieger, treasurer, and member Owen Flood. There is a new website, expanded social media presence, new logos and the club will soon offer the sale of merchandise of hats and T-shirts with club branding on its new website at [www.haliburtonmtb.ca](http://www.haliburtonmtb.ca). Proceeds from the sales will help with trail maintenance and future efforts.

Darlington is welcoming riders and other outdoor lovers to join the club and use the trails.

"We hope people join and show support for the trails and come out and use the bike trails. We welcome runners and hikers/walkers and dogs. Please, keep your dog under control," he said.

He adds the community can support the club by purchasing a membership and by volunteering, which can include regular trail maintenance, particularly during

the autumn when trails need clearing of leaves.

With membership rates starting at \$10 for a student/child, \$25 per adult and \$50 for a family, the club offers an affordable recreational activity to the community..

The membership dues help to cover the expenses related to insurance coverage at the trail network and for trail maintenance and construction. Purchase memberships online at [zone4.ca/register.asp?i](http://zone4.ca/register.asp?i). Donations for single day use can be made through the app Trail Forks, which earns riders "Trail Karma" points.

Results from a recent online survey will be used for guidance and as potential areas to address for the near and long-term future.

Social media coordinator and website developer Gervais said riding is an ideal activity that is COVID-19 safe. He adds the trails system has expanded and continues to be improved and is possible because of a partnership with the town.

"We are so fortunate to have a land-use agreement with Dysart et al to allow such amazing trails to exist right in the centre of our municipality. There is a huge cycling boost worldwide – so much so that bikes are hard to find," he wrote in a message.

Although a map and signage are onsite, there is online navigation and trail names and related descriptions for each with the app Trail Forks.

For more information see the club's website at [www.haliburtonmtb.ca](http://www.haliburtonmtb.ca), or look for social media posts through Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

Darlington said, "Our goal is to maintain, enhance and extend the trail system. We are trying to keep the operation of the club as simple as possible."

## One final goodbye

Jean Henderson is gone. She had lived in Park Lane apartments in later years after her husband's death and died there on the morning of May 24, 2021. She and Rod lived on Pine Lake at what is now known as Nile Road.

Our families had many close ties, our daughter Beth and their son John having gone through public school at Guilford and high school together in Haliburton. Each attended Laurentian University in Sudbury. Jean and I shared musical and literary interests together. Also, Jean was one of our Scottish Country dancers and was part of the Centennial choir under Bill Gliddon.

Jean's focus on music was evidenced by her library of classical records, and her shelves were evidence of her book worm tendency. Jean's garden was limited to her balcony garden but she loved it.

The graveside service was informal and because of COVID restrictions, was attended only by 10 people. Jean's faith was expressed in her Baha'i following and her friend, Harry Terpstra led in prayer at the time of interment. John thanked those present and spoke a brief precise of her life, including her involvement in WWII as well as her life in Haliburton. Twelve Mile Lake Cemetery was chosen as the

fitting, final resting place for Jean beside Rod's grave. Condolences were expressed and sympathy offered sincerely to Val and John who were both able to be with Jean last Monday morning.

If your interest in ornithology extends to having notice taken and recorded, Brian Pfeiffer is the man to contact. Brian has been taking an interest in the blue bird population for a number of years here in my backyard. So far he has noticed barn swallows, bobolinks, gold finches to make record of around here. Thankfully my cat, Teddy, while taking an interest, has caught only two, one which I was able to rescue.

Once again, rhubarb is abundant, so if you give me a ring at 754-2278, I can point you in the right direction.

Erin Chumbley, daughter of Mike and Angela Chumbley begins her nursing training at Nipissing University in North Bay, the recipient of a scholarship which pays for her first year as a result of high marks in her last year of high school. Congratulations from all Guilford friends and relations. Parents and grandparents are cheering!

*Eleanor Cooper, West Guilford news*



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## Rotary Club of Haliburton Annual Car Draw

is

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Rotary  
Club of Haliburton





# Haliburton County Public Library launches new survey

MIKE BAKER

Editor

The Haliburton County Public Library [HCPL] is calling on residents from across the Highlands to assist the organization in shaping its new multi-year strategic plan.

Library staff released a survey in May, asking people to answer a series of questions, including whether they consider themselves seasonal or year-round residents, if they have ever used a facility or service offered by HCPL, or what, if anything, the library could offer or change to convince them to use their services on a more frequent basis.

Anyone who completes the survey and returns it to any of the six branches across the county will be entered into a draw to win one of four \$25 gift cards to a local restaurant of their choosing.

Individuals can also complete the survey online at [olco.ent.sirsidynix.net/client/en\\_US/haliburton](http://olco.ent.sirsidynix.net/client/en_US/haliburton).

"The survey is important. We're trying to reach as many people as possible to receive feedback on our services," Babluck said. "It is part of a bigger process. We are developing a new strategic plan... A library should be a reflection of the community it serves, so it's really

important to us that we get community input on our services. We want to make sure we're meeting real needs in the community and using our finite resources wisely, and continuing to offer innovative service."

The library's most recent strategic plan expired in 2018. Babluck says a new plan will guide local library services over the next several years. She hopes the HCPL board will be in a position to approve a new plan by September.

At present, HCPL has 6,120 active members. Babluck says she's always looking for creative ways to increase usership.

"It's not all about library card membership. It's about what other services can we provide that will meet people's needs, because we do a lot more than just circulating books," Babluck said. "We have youth programming, which has had to go virtual this year due to COVID-19, but we've also done grab-and-go kits, and different maker-style kits for robotics and things like that. We lend sports equipment in partnership with Dysart [township]. Computer use, also, is huge."

Currently closed to the public, Babluck says she's waiting on approval from the provincial government before reopening the libraries.

"We've gone through closing and reopening a few times now, so we do have a plan in place... but we

can't make any decisions until we hear from the province what is happening," Babluck said. "There's been no word yet. We hear when everybody else hears, essentially. We don't get any advanced notice."

## Hahn says hybrid learning isn't TLDSB's 'preferred model'

from page 4

For learn at home students in elementary school, a synchronous component, in which a teacher is teaching live to students, would still be in place.

"Will it be a Learn at Home school like we ran this year? We don't believe so because the numbers aren't showing that there's that many students wanting to access Learn at Home. But again, these are just the things that we're looking at right now and as we get more numbers we'll have a better idea."

"As far as secondary remote learning goes, the numbers are right now preliminary very low," he said. "So again we will have to look at the students who choose that remote learning and potentially look at how we're going to set up their course selections to look at how they can be successful - that might mean some kind of connection to the secondary school, or some kind of connection to our VLC or e-learning component."

Hahn said the school board was encouraging all parents to complete re-registration by June 1. He said a full report would be brought to trustees at the June 8 meeting.

"We want to have this in place by the end of June, first week of July," he said. "We believe parents need to know that, students and staff need to know that, we're trying to avoid a massive rush to do things in a week, and everyone's scrambling around in late August to try to get this ready. Having said that, it's quite clear, the ministry has already indicated they will probably give us updates, somewhere in the middle of August, and those updates could be further directives about how we're going to move into September."

"So, lots of moving parts, and it's still going to be moving right up until September, so we're trying to do the best we can to get organized for parents, to get organized for staff, and stay ahead of it so that we're not scrambling. Our goal is to keep it stable, not introduce a whole lot of change and make sure people can manage this in the best way possible."

Trustee Louise Clodd said she and other trustees had received many e-mails from parents and teachers about not wanting a hybrid model, in which live in-class, as well as synchronous at-home learning, would be taking place.

"At this point in time the hybrid model is not a model we are considering," said Hahn. "We believe that we can fulfill what we need to do through our synchronous elementary model and both our supportive secondary students through VLC or e-learning or other modules. As you know the hybrid model that has received a lot of attention has obviously the teacher focused not only on students in their classroom but students who are also connected to the class at home. At this point in time we're not looking at that model, we're looking at an octomester or quad model and as we start to build that through the month of June and into July we believe we can make it work through those models."

Trustee Gary Brohman asked if there might become a need to go to a hybrid model once the "moving parts," mentioned by Hahn were all in place, specifically in secondary school if the number of students registered at home might be low.

"I think it's a good question, Gary," said Hahn. "I wouldn't say we wouldn't ever look at it. Right now it's not our preferred model and we think right now with the funding that we have and the student registrations that we have potentially coming forward that we can make it work otherwise. If things change, we'd definitely bring it forward, but it is not a preferred model that we are looking at, at this time. It is not."

## Next meeting

The last board meeting of the 2020-2021 year takes place on June 8, virtually, at 6:30 p.m. and is available online after the meeting as well. For more information, visit <http://www.tldsb.ca>.

## Ramsay excited for team to play in front of a crowd in Haliburton County

from page 2

doesn't seem like much, but there is a maturation process that occurs, as far as playing and how to cope

"From minor hockey to junior, it's a big jump. I think it takes at least 20 games for a player to adapt and then you're really going to see if he's junior ready. It's a big jump to go from. The big thing is offensive players in minor hockey are used to being the big man on campus. When you come up you're playing against guys that are two to four years older than you that might have 50 or 60 pounds on you, so it's more of a man's game, or mature game where - body contact is a big part in our league, puck possession - they just don't win those battles, really, when they first come up until they can learn to play bigger or play in the grey areas in those corners," he said.

He adds the greatest jump from minor to junior to overcome is in the defensive zone.

Ramsay said the anticipation of being able to play in front of hundreds of people is exciting.

"It's everything. When you play in front of a packed crowd obviously emotions run higher. Energy level gets up as well. It's exciting to play in front [of a crowd]. Coming from Whitby, we obviously didn't have a crowd. It's not a good atmosphere to play in. To watch a game with an empty crowd you can hear a pin drop. There's no atmosphere. There's no game day experience for the fan coming in," he said.

He adds a large fan presence can affect how the opposing team plays.

"When we go to Wellington, Trenton. You know when the crowd is loud, and you know, the team is feeding off the fan's energy, it really plays that sixth man factor ... which I'm excited to be part of and get up here and get going on the ice," he said.

During the season, he adds, its challenging to be up for every game, particularly after a road trip.

The fans can help raise the spirits and create momentum when team energy is low.

Ramsay and Wilson will be facilitating a variety of outreach opportunities for the players to connect with the community, whether it's to help bag groceries at the local supermarkets, autograph sessions, pickup ball hockey games, or help minor hockey teams any way they can, which can include instruction or just collecting pucks.

These efforts, Ramsay said, can help with encouraging more children to play and can have a mutual benefit for the children, who gain a role-model to look up to and the players, who get a sense of giving back to the community.

As a nine-year-old, he remembers skating with the Wexford Raiders during a warmup before a game.

"I was starstruck. You know mouth open, sitting next to a player getting dressed in the dressing room to go out and skate around the rink and stand on the red line for the national anthem. I'll never forget that," he said. "I even remember the guy's name, which years later I played with in the American Hockey League with a guy that was on that team. He was laughing because I said the name ... he said that guy probably only played 10 games that year and then quit hockey. But I thought he was Wayne Gretzky. The guy was nice. He gave me a pat on the butt and talked to me, which I was just starstruck and probably found out maybe 15 years later he wasn't a good hockey player. Obviously, he was a good person."

Wilson emphasized this hockey team venture isn't about making money.

He asks the community to show its support through ticket sales and sponsorships to ensure the team is viable.

"If there is any money left over, we're going to use it to make the team better the next year. To have a really good team ... the older players aren't going to pay, so we have to work some financial deal with them to get them to come. That's the only way to have a good team. It's important for the public to realize that this isn't a profitable thing for me," he said.

He adds the projected costs for the dressing room has grown to close to \$200,000 because of the requirement to have an engineer and architect for the redesign of the space.

Close to Belleville, the Wellington Dukes are similar to Haliburton County and is being used as a model because of its ability to operate and for the similar market size for success, Wilson said. They will see upwards of 600 people attending their games.

Although the Highlands community can't match the population of larger centres such as Trenton, this community has shown its ability to punch above its weight.

Within a few days, there were 60 season tickets sold. This is in stark contrast to the team's past home location of Whitby where there weren't any sold.

"But the community spirit here is such that I think between the sponsors, the interest in the team and people that will come to the game, I still think it can work, so we're going to give a shot and see," he said.

Ramsay said learning about the sale of dozens of season memberships is reason to be optimistic and appreciative for the support.

"We're really happy that the community is supporting it already. We're excited to get going and thankful to everyone, who has helped us along way so far," he said.

For more information about season tickets, merchandise, sponsorship and volunteering see the team website [www.huskieshockey.ca](http://www.huskieshockey.ca).



# Health unit planning in case second dose of vaccine available early

SUE TIFFIN

Staff Reporter

*The following are brief reports from a Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge district health unit press conference held virtually on May 26 with medical officer of health Dr. Natalie Bocking.*

Residents have been asking if, with an increase in vaccine supply to the country and the county, they might receive their second dose of vaccine earlier than anticipated, in a shortened dose interval of less than 16 weeks.

"There hasn't been anything officially announced," said Bocking. "I know we are planning and making sure we have contingency plans to be able to balance that, given our supply of vaccine, to not only continue to promote first dose access but also to ensure that if people are reaching that 16-week interval for their second dose, that they're able to have an appointment."

## County can celebrate no COVID-19 cases

On May 26, Haliburton County reported no new confirmed cases of COVID-19, and no active COVID-19 cases, and that report continued on May 27 as well as May 31.

"Anytime we're seeing case numbers go lower, and certainly zero is as low as you can get, is a time to pause and congratulate each other for continuing to work together and follow the public health measures, and to pursue getting vaccinated," said Bocking. "All of those things will come together as we continue to see cases lowered. I'd encourage folks in Haliburton to give themselves a pat on the back, to continue to encourage each other to keep up the good work."

Overall across the region numbers were lowering, noted Bocking.

"I don't want people to be discouraged if there are new cases because I think we're going to see some COVID activity for some time yet, it doesn't mean we can change things right now in terms of public health measures but it's certainly moving in the right direction."

## Dysart clinic closes this week

After June 9, Haliburton County will have one mass vaccine clinic – located in Minden – as the Dysart arena clinic closes to put ice back in.

"Our mobile teams have been able to reach a significant number of the settings that we had identified, either the congregate settings or settings that had individuals that might have more difficulty

in accessing the vaccines," said Bocking. "The number of mobile clinics is likely to decrease in the coming months as we really focus efforts on the mass immunization clinics, which have really demonstrated to be the most efficient use of resources to get out the most vaccine in the fastest period of time."

Pharmacies and primary care options are also administering vaccine throughout the region.

"When we look at the long-term sustainability of the vaccination effort, really we're emphasizing that there are multiple channels and avenues that people can access vaccines," said Bocking. "In the long-run, seven or eight months from now there won't be the same need for mass immunization clinics but there will likely still be an ongoing need for vaccine to be through primary care and pharmacies, so really wanting to make sure that infrastructure is there, to support the sustainability of vaccination efforts."

Current eligibility allows for anyone 12 and over to book for vaccine appointments anywhere in Ontario. Bocking said there might be specific use sites in place to ensure school-aged children and their families have the opportunity to be vaccinated, or mass immunization clinics might be used.

## More than 95,000 residents first-dose vaccinated to date

As of May 24, 74,661 vaccines have been administered in the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge district health unit area. By that same date, 95,921 residents had received at least their first dose of vaccine, though not necessarily in the local area.

Within the region, of the population 18 and over, 59 per cent has received their first dose of vaccine, while 80 per cent of people aged 60 and over have received their first dose.

"These are pretty significant achievements in vaccination roll-out both for HKPR jurisdiction as well as for the province overall," said Bocking, noting that the province had set a goal of 65 per cent of eligible population receiving a first dose prior to the end of the month, and the local region is "quite close to achieving it."

The health unit is expecting approximately 9,300 doses per week of Pfizer vaccine per week in June.

## Epidemiology update

The region surpassed 2,000 confirmed cases of COVID-19 on May 27.

Of the COVID-19 cases recently being seen in the region over the past two weeks, Bocking said greater than 50 per

cent are in those aged between 20 and 39. "So still seeing it in younger populations, and not among the older population that we likely saw earlier in the pandemic," she said.

In the past two weeks, 20 per cent of cases have no known contact, while 43 per cent are outbreak-related, with Bocking noting the Central East Correctional Centre outbreak in Lindsay is so large, it is affecting metrics.

Test positivity was recorded as 2.3 per cent.

## Lindsay correctional facility experiences outbreak

On May 25, the health unit issued

a press release noting that the number of active COVID-19 cases in City of Kawartha Lakes had increased substantially after confirmation of additional cases of COVID-19 following an outbreak declared at the Central East Correctional Centre in Lindsay on May 17.

At that time, six inmates in various areas of the facility were confirmed positive. Over the long weekend, 88 COVID-19 cases were confirmed in City of Kawartha Lakes, with 67 of those being related to the CECC outbreak. As of May 25, 122 inmates and nine staff had tested positive. Although a variant of concern has been identified in the outbreak, the specific variant has not yet been determined through whole genome sequencing, which can take several weeks.

## Haliburton County Virtual Primary Care Clinic

If you live in Haliburton County and do not have a family doctor or nurse practitioner, you are eligible to seek care at the new Haliburton County Virtual Primary Care Clinic.



The Clinic will operate for two half-days a week to start, and may scale up or down depending on community need.

Patients will meet with a family doctor through a secure Ontario Telemedicine Network video session, with the assistance of a nurse.

Patients will experience consistent care, as they work with the same physician over time. They will be transitioned to a local family doctor when one becomes available.

Book an appointment by calling  
HHHS Community Programs at 705-457-2941 ext. 2294.

The Community Programs team will help you register with Health Care Connect and ensure you don't already have a family doctor. The Clinic will not offer walk-in services - all appointments must be pre-booked.



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#### Notice of Procedural By-Law Amendments

As per Policy No. 24 – Public Notice Policy, notice is hereby being provided that Dysart et al Council, at their regular meeting to be held on June 22, 2021, will be amending the Procedural By-Law to update groups/organizations represented on Cultural Resources Committee, agenda items on Council and Committee of the Whole, and electronic meeting procedures.

#### Notice of Naming of all Public/Private Roads

Take notice that pursuant to the Municipal Act 2001, c.25, as amended, the Dysart et al Council, at their regular meeting to be held on June 22, 2021 will be considering a by-law to name all public and private roads, as required, to accommodate the following road additions:

Lake House Lane  
Maple Rock Trail  
Stothart Creek Road

Mallory Bishop, Municipal Clerk



#### Perfect form

Eight-year-old Charlie Grant takes a swing on Thursday, May 27 at the Haliburton Driving Range. Charlie was with his younger brother Jack and his grandfather, who are all regular visitors to the range. The province recently announced some outdoor activities such as golf were permitted during the province's third pandemic-related lockdown. /DARREN LUM Staff

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# Province's response to LTC questions 'pretty pathetic' says local advocate

MIKE BAKER

Editor

## CROSSWORD ANSWERS

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More than 600 Ontarians filled the virtual galleries of the Ontario Legislature for Question Period on May 18 to share their stories and demand improvements to long-term care, but Premier Doug Ford and Merrilee Fullerton, minister of long-term care, were nowhere to be found.

"It was pretty pathetic," said Haliburton resident Bonnie Roe, who helped to organize the Ontario Health Coalition [OHC] event. "There's no other way to put it. Their absence was insulting, disrespectful and pathetic. To not have the premier and the minister there to listen to families' concerns and workers' concerns, when they knew this was taking place, it's just unbelievable."

Through individual stories sent in by long-term care families and staff, OHC asked the opposition parties to challenge Ford to commit to fast-tracking improvements in staffing in the homes.

The NDP's Andrea Horwath took the lead, directing as many as 12 questions towards Paul Calandra, Conservative party house leader. The responses were "disappointing and vague" and offered no reassurances to those in attendance, Roe said.

While she was disgusted by the notable absences and poor response to questions, Roe was proud of her efforts in helping to organize the event, as well the 50 or so people from Haliburton County and the City of Kawartha Lakes who were actively involved.

"As an overall event, even though the premier and minister weren't there, it was pretty powerful. I was totally moved. I was moved to tears," Roe said. "Some of the testimonials... Every MPP who was there could not have not been moved by the stories that were shared."

“

*Every MPP who was there could not have not been moved by the stories that were shared. They would have to be made out of stone to not be moved.*

— Bonnie Roe

They would have to be made out of stone to not be moved. It was incredible.

"I felt truly honoured to be part of it, and so did so many. It's our Ontario Legislature and it's pretty important that we make family members and advocates feel listened to... It was unbelievable that there were no solutions to offer people," Roe added.

As chair of the Haliburton-City of Kawartha Lakes LTC Coalition, Roe said she will continue advocating for residents and workers of Ontario's long-term care homes.

"The work doesn't stop. We'll continue plugging away at our priorities, speaking up and holding [the provincial government] accountable," Roe concluded.

For more information, visit [www.ltcneedsyou.ca](http://www.ltcneedsyou.ca).

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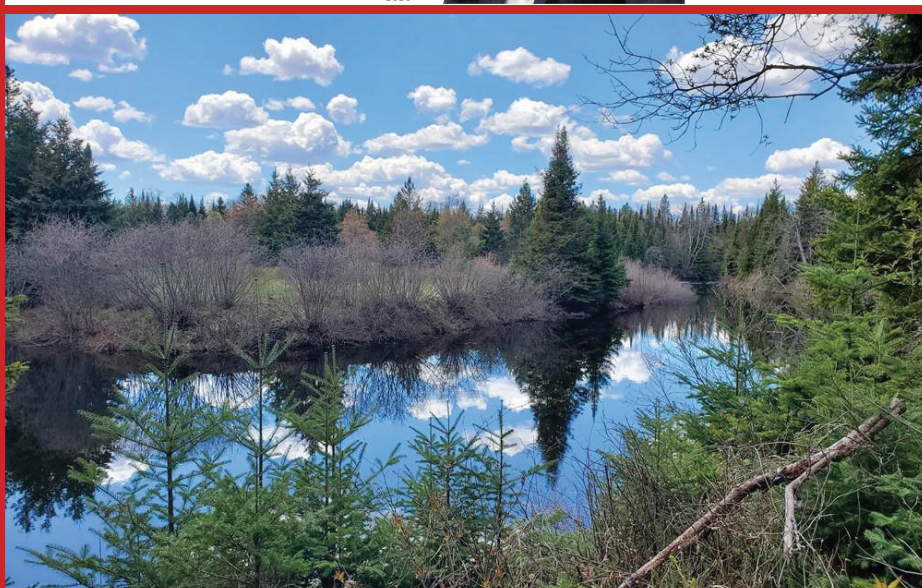
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OUR FAMILY is looking for a caring/ responsible/ outgoing/ and outdoorsy nanny to care for our two girls 1 & 3 years old. The part-time position is two to three days a week between Monday and Friday. Some flexibility for days and times. To reply please contact **519-242-6021 or email resume to [jessicaruthgood@gmail.com](mailto:jessicaruthgood@gmail.com)**

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650 OBITUARIES



## Carla Watson

(Resident of Haliburton, Ontario)

Peacefully at the Peterborough Regional Health Centre on Saturday May 29, 2021 in her 66th year. Beloved partner and best friend of Jack Greavette. Loving mother of Kandace, Krista & Tanya. Fondly remembered by her grandchildren Jordan, Kennedy, Avery, Cody, Jace, Emma, Matisyn, William, Jocelyn, Thomas, Daniel, Keith, and Kyle. Great Grand Mother to Finn, Eli, Memphis, Brantley, and Jacelyn. Dear sister of Albert "Bert", John, Pat (Dennis), Janet (Chris) and Richard (Nukhet). Also lovingly remembered by many nieces and nephews.

### Visitation & Private Funeral Service

Friends are invited to call at the HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME 13523 Hwy. #118, Haliburton, Ontario on Thursday June 3, 2021 by appointment only. Please RSVP below. Masks must be worn. A Private Funeral Service will follow on Friday afternoon, June 4, 2021 at 2 o'clock. To join the service virtually, click the following link ten minutes prior to service time <https://join.skype.com/nmo5yCHYhhHu> Interment later at Essonville Cemetery. As an expression of sympathy, donations to the Royal Canadian Legion Branch #129 would be appreciated by the family.

[www.communityfuneralhomes.com](http://www.communityfuneralhomes.com)



## Sigrid "Siggi" Debes (nee Schaefer)

(Resident of Haliburton)

Peacefully at Haliburton Hospital on May 25, 2021 in her 83rd year. Much loved wife of Herbert Debes for over 63 years.

Loving mother of Karen, Cathy, Glenn and Jennifer. Fondly remembered by her ten grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

Your inspiring smile, your Joie de vivre, and above all your love for family and faith will be forever treasured.

Your children, grandchildren, great grandchildren, community, congregation and your loving husband of 63 years will all sorely miss you.

You left us in style, lipstick, earrings and a smile...we are so proud of you. A life time of memories will sustain us.

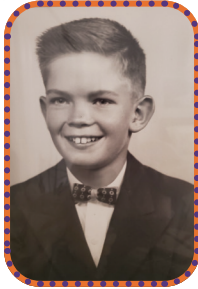
Isaiah 41:13 "For I, Jehovah your God, am grasping your right hand, The one saying to you..." Do not be afraid. I will help you".

### Private Graveside Service

A Private Graveside Service will take place at a later date. As an expression of sympathy, donations to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation - Highland Wood would be appreciated by the family. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME 13523 Hwy. #118, Haliburton, Ontario (705) 457-9209.

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500 ANNOUNCEMENTS



**HAPPY  
75th  
BIRTHDAY**  
**POPPA BOBBY!**  
*Love Claire*

640 IN MEMORIAM

In Loving Memory of  
**Irene Bailey (2016)**  
**and Clark Bailey (1990)**

Sunshine passes, shadows fall,  
Love's remembrance outlasts all;  
And although the years be many or few,  
They are filled with remembrance of you.

*Always remembered by  
Cec, Pearl, Bob and family*

520 THANK YOU

## With Deepest Thanks

Lorraine Semple would like to extend her deepest gratitude to the staff at Hyland Crest Long Term Care for the extraordinary kindness and care given to her late husband Keith Semple. Keith was a resident at Hyland Crest for 5 years and during that time, he was treated with love, compassion and given endless support. To say that the care given to him was exemplary is an understatement, and in his final weeks of life, that same care was also extended to Lorraine. Keith was treated with the care, gentleness and respect that we all hope to receive in life. A special thank you to all of the nursing, PSW and administrative staff who were incredibly supportive throughout his palliative care.

**Keith Semple:**  
**July 26th, 1941 ~ April 29, 2021**



600 FUNERAL SERVICES

In Loving Memory of

## Jean Henderson

(August 13, 1924-May 24, 2021)

Passed away peacefully at home with her children at her side on Monday, May 24, 2021, in her 97th year.

Beloved wife of the late Rod Henderson (2000). Dear mother of John of Toronto, Val of Haliburton and grandmother of Emerald Henderson of Haliburton. Daughter of the late John and Alice Hindle.

A Private Family Graveside Service will be held at the Twelve Mile Lake Cemetery, Carnarvon on Thursday, May 27, 2021.

Memorial Donations to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation (HHHSF) would be appreciated by the family and can be arranged through the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., P.O. Box 427, Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0.



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*With deepest sympathy.*



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**2000**

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## Inside THIS WEEK



### Prophet vs profit

A Franciscan friar leads retreat on how to restore faith's role in a consumer society

page 21

### French immersion is a go

Program will be offered this September at Stuart Baker School

page 4

### Gold for green

Carnarvon woman wins prestigious award for her ecological work

page 5

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LEN PIZZEY/Echo

### Running to win

Jordana Bain, Kate Campbell and Amy Brandon were in fine form as they took part in HHSS's first track and field event of the season. The teenaged athletes set six new records for the school. For more photos and the day's results, please see page 10.

## Budget 2000

Highlands students, residents and businesses will benefit from province's initiatives, Hodgson says

ERIK MARTENSSON

Staff Reporter

Beyond the "up to \$200" dividend cheque that all Ontario taxpayers are receiving from the provincial government, Haliburton-Victoria-Brock MPP Chris Hodgson was confident the budget presented last Tuesday will benefit Haliburton County.

"We're fiscally sounder and everyone shares in that," said Hodgson.

He cites the first consecutive balanced budgets since the '40s, increased spending on education by \$197-million, an added \$1.4-billion in new spending in health and a savings on taxes in several areas.

"The child-tax increase will help locally," he said in a telephone interview with The Echo immediately after his cabinet colleague, Ernie Eves, presented the budget. As part of the Ontario Child Care Supplement for Working Families, single-parent families will see an increase in the maximum annual benefit for each child under the age of seven. The increase of \$210 will begin this coming July.

As well, "low-income tax reductions are a benefit for years to come," said Hodgson. A cut in income taxes did not come in this year's budget, but a 20 per cent cut was promised for next year.

"We've exceeded all the targets," said Hodgson. "The

Liberals said we'd never succeed. But you have to cut taxes, we have to be competitive."

He said the county should also benefit from a number of initiatives the budget has provided. Part of the \$6-million earmarked for a special OPP team for snow trails and waterways, \$1-billion for Ontario highways, \$600-million for Ontario small town and rural development and \$50 million over four years to promote tourism are "projects to apply for which should help our area".

Hodgson is confident that the county will be successful in getting the grants and funding. "We've been very successful in the past."

"More money for health care

See **Increased** page 4

## Global markets providing new clients, loggers told at woodlot conference

ERIK MARTENSSON

Staff Reporter

With a few adjustments, Haliburton County's forestry industry can continue to be economically viable, forestry experts said at the Spring Woodlot Conference at Haliburton Forest last Friday.

The fourth annual event – sponsored by the Haliburton Highlands Stewardship Council in partnership with the Haliburton Forest and Wildlife Reserve Ltd. and the University of Toronto Faculty of Forestry – discussed the importance of forestry as an economic component of the county, and how the county can compete on the global market.

Gary Bull of the University of British Columbia and the United Nations maintains that Haliburton County has an important role to play in the global forestry market.

"Logging of old growth forests is declining worldwide while the demand for products is increasing and that is of benefit to the local market."

Bull says political constraints and recreational pressures are high in the US and it has taken away their source of old-growth trees while they remain the largest market for forest products. That has heightened the demand for products produced in Haliburton and price trends are forecasted to go up.

Competition from plantations in South America and the US should also not be of concern.

See **Pooling** page 6

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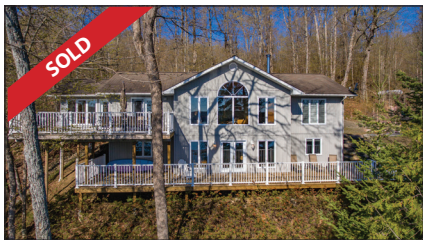
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**HALIBURTON LAKE**  
**\$799,000**



Prestigious Haliburton Lake. 3-bdrm, 1 bath seasonal cottage. Stunning Western exposure and 111 ft of frontage of deep clean rock and sand shoreline. Many recent improvements. Spacious kitchen finished. Open concept dining and living area Detached double garage. This turnkey, fully furnished cottage is move in ready.

**KENNISIS LAKE**  
**\$699,000**



First time being offered for sale. This turn-key 2-bdrm, 1 bath year-round home or cottage offers a stunning south-west exposure and big lake views. Spacious living room, open concept kitchen and dining area. Double detached garage, woodshed and shed with bay to store your boat. Sand beach area is ideal for the little ones in the family.

**KENNISIS LAKE**  
**\$699,000**



It's the perfect opportunity to get into the cottage market. 3-bdrm, 1 bath seasonal cottage. Enjoy the stunning sunsets, gorgeous clean, rock shoreline with 104+ ft of frontage. Level lot . Open concept with a true cottage feel. Enjoy the bright sunny sitting room. This traditional cottage allows you to put your feet up, relax and enjoy the luxuries of Kennisis Lake!

**HALIBURTON LAKE**  
**\$685,000**



This fully furnished 3-bdrm, 2 bath cottage is located on popular Haliburton Lake and is move in ready! Open concept kitchen and dining area. Ample storage space in kitchen, finished with wood cabinetry, stainless steel appliances and large island. Spacious living room with vaulted wood ceilings and unique stone surrounded woodstove. Loft is finished and is a great place for the young ones to escape to. Sand, rock shoreline with private docking system and sitting deck at water's edge.

**KENNISIS LAKE**  
**\$680,000**



This 3-bdrm, 1 bath seasonal cottage is move in ready. Spacious kitchen with open concept to the dining area. Livingroom features beautiful pine ceiling and beams and ample natural lighting. Large boathouse / garage is great for storage. Enjoy the big lake views at the waters edge on your spacious sitting deck. Don't miss this great opportunity to get on Kennisis Lake.

**DRAG LAKE**  
**\$599,000**



Searching for a year-round cottage? This 3-bdrm, 1 bath back-split cottage is perfect. With 100 ft of frontage and stunning views this traditional cottage checks off all the boxes. Open concept kitchen, dining and living area feature vaulted pine ceilings. The lake front deck is a great space for BBQing and entertaining family and friends. Recent upgrades include renovated bathroom and fully winterizing the cottage. Private docking system and clean, calm waters make for summer enjoyment and is great for children.

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